

Jacqueline Liesch
Madison, WI 53705

"Hello,

I am writing to provide comments to the FCC on the E-Rate NPRM, proceeding 13-184. E-Rate has been very important to the Kenosha Unified School District and the Madison Metropolitan School District because it has helped our students and teachers gain access to a wealth of online resources, communicate and collaborate, and develop the 21st century skills necessary for college and career. However, E-Rate funding levels have not kept pace with my district's future bandwidth needs. I urge you to raise the E-Rate funding level to at least \$5 billion per year, which is close to the average demand level for each of the past two years.

As a library media specialist in Wisconsin, I know that seamlessly infusing digital learning throughout the curriculum is a prerequisite for students to graduate from high school with the skills and knowledge they need to succeed in today's global economy. Access to high-speed broadband is the key to allowing modern teaching and learning to occur in all schools across the country.

In my previous position as a library media specialist in the Kenosha Unified School District, we use digital learning for students to collaborate and communicate. An example of this is: students connecting with peers worldwide using Skype to build their cultural awareness. Students and staff in both districts enjoy access to a wealth of online resources to use in their learning and teaching. However, my district network is just keeping up with demand, and the need for a reliable high-speed network is only going to increase in the near future.

The E-Rate program has been a phenomenal success in bringing internet access to almost every classroom in America. In the last funding cycle, applications from schools and libraries requested a total of more than \$5 billion—twice the amount of available funding. I respectfully urge the FCC to increase funding for the E-Rate program to at least \$5 billion to meet this demand. All students need access to high-speed broadband. Our nation's future depends on their success.

Sincerely,
Jacqueline Liesch"